

The FCC cannot stand by and watch as Sinclair Broadcasting forces their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election. This is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. The citizens of this country own the airwaves. FCC is the steward, and Sinclair is a guest. They are obligated by law to serve the public interest.

When media consolidation occurs, we get corporate ethics (the bottom line first) as opposed to the highest good that journalism can bring: balanced, unbiased access to information. Media consolidation, while more insidious than violent terrorism, in the long run is no less a threat to our democracy.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. We need a license renewal process that involves more than a returned postcard, and clearer standards to which we hold the guests who use our airwaves. Thank you.